

Message Text

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ACTION TRSE-00

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CPR-01 OIC-02 SP-02 AID-05 EB-07

NSC-05 CIEP-01 SS-15 STR-04 OMB-01 CEA-01 COME-00

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /062 W
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R 181219Z JUL 75

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3084

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E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: EFIN, EAID, CE

SUBJ:ANNUAL IMF/IBRD MEETING; SRI LANKA

REF: STATE 165594

1. FINANCE MINISTER SENIOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY N.S.L. PERERA TOLD EMBASSY THAT FINANCE, PLANNING AND OTHER CONCERNED MINISTRIES HAVE NOT YET BEGUN SPECIFIC PLANNING FOR SEPTEMBER MEETINGS. THEY HAVE FOCUSED ON NEED TO BEGIN PREPARATION EARLY AND WILL HAVE PRELIMINARY MEETINGS DURING NEXT SEVERAL WORKING DAYS. PERERA COULD NOT SAY WHETHER GSL DELEGATION WOULD SEEK TO DISCUSS BILATERAL ISSUES WITH UGS OR WHETHER FORMAL MEETING WILL BE REQUESTED. WE BELIVE IT UNLIKELY THAT FORMAL MEETING WIL BE NEEDED, BUT INDIVIDUAL GSL DELEGATIONS MAY DESIRE DISUCSS MATTERS WITH USG DELEGATES OR OTHER USG OFFICIALS IN WASHINGTON. WE WILL BE IN TOUGH WITH PERERA EARLY NEXT WEEK.

2. ISSUES U.S. DELEGATION SHOULD RAISE: ALTHOUGH WE DO NOT PROPOSE FORMAL MEETING, WE RECOMMEND HAT USG DELGATES SEEK OPPORTUNITY TO
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MAKE FOLLOWING POINTS WITH GSL DELEGATES: FIRST,

USG FULLY UNDERSTANDS SRI LANKA'S POSITION AS
ARCHETYPICAL MOST SEVERELY AFFECTED DEVELOPING
COUNTRY, ESPECIALLY WITH RESPECT TO VERY NEGATIVE
TERMS OF TRADE TREND. SECOND: USG APPRECIATES
PRIME MINISTER BANDARANAIKE'S AND GSL'S
GENERAL APPROACH OF MODERATION AND PRAGMATISM IN
DEALING WITH CURRENT WORLD ECONOMIC ISSUES IN
VARIOUS INTERNATIONAL FORA. THIRD: USG RECOGNIZES
AND ENCOURAGES LEADERSHIP, TECHNICAL COMPETENCE,
AND ACTIVE PARTICIPATION OF SRI LANKA CITIZENS
AND OFFICIALS IN INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC GROUPS
AND ONGOING NEGOTIATIONS. AT THIS TIME, THERE
ARE NO OTHER BILATERAL ISSUES WE BELIEVE NEED
BE DISCUSSED AT IMF/IBRD MEETING.

3. PROBABLE GSL DELEGATION:

(A) N.M. PERERA, CHIEF OF DELEGATION, GSL
FINANCE MINISTER;

(B) HERBERT TENNEKON, GOVERNOR, CEYLON
CENTRAL BANK;

(C) NEVILLE KANAKARATNE, AMBASSADOR TO
WASHINGTON;

(D) DR. LAL JAYEWARDENE, ACTING SECRETARY,
FINANCE MINISTRY;

(E) N.S.L. PERERA, SENIOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY,
FINANCE MINISTRY (FINANCE MINISTER'S NEPHEW);

(F) SIXTH UNDESIGNED DELEGATE, PROBABLY
FROM PLANNING MINISTRY. THIS IS VERY HIGH
POWERED, POLITICALLY SAVVY DELEGATION. CLOSE
PERSONAL ATTENTION AND DISCUSSION OF SUBSTANCE
WILL BE REWARDING BOTH IN TERMS OF U.S. POSITION
ON INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ISSUES AND OF U.S.-SRI
LANKA BILATERAL RELATIONS.

VAN HOLLEN

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